

Safety Tips for Stalking Victims

- Stay alert and aware at all times.
- Become familiar with your surroundings so you will be aware of any changes.
- Always walk or travel with someone, especially at night.
- Have your keys ready when approaching your car or home.
- Know where the closest police department is located.
- Call 911 in an emergency.
- Change your daily routine. Take different routes going to and from your home.
- Vary your time schedule.
- Wear comfortable shoes when traveling.
- Lock all doors and windows in your home, at all times.
- If possible, use timers at your home to turn lights off and on at varying times.

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Jerry E. Abramson
Mayor

26 Member
Metro Council

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

POLICE 911

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE 574-6336

CRIME VICTIM'S ADVOCATES
PROGRAM 574-6336

CENTER FOR WOMEN & FAMILIES
581-7200

CRISIS AND INFORMATION CENTER 589-4313

COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY'S
OFFICE 595-2300 OR 595-2340

KENTUCKY LAWYER REFERRAL
SERVICE 583-1801

LEGAL AID 584-1254

Stalking:

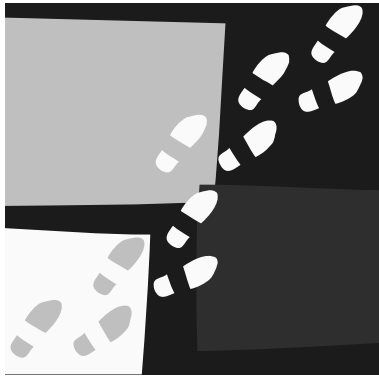
Stop Crime In Its Tracks



OFFICE FOR WOMEN

Urban Government Center
810 Barret Avenue, 2nd Floor
Louisville, KY 40204
(502) 574-5360
(502) 574-6888 Fax
E-mail: ofw@louisvilleky.gov
Website: www.louisvilleky.gov/OFW

Are you being stalked?



Stalking is defined by Kentucky law [KRS 508.130 (I)] as an intentional course of conduct directed at a specific person or persons, which seriously alarms, annoys, intimidates, or harasses the person or persons and which serves no legitimate purpose.

"Course of Conduct" is defined as two or more acts, evidencing a continuity of purpose.

Who is a stalker?

A stalker could be anyone. It could be someone you know (a friend, co-worker, acquaintance), someone you've had a relationship with, or a complete stranger.

What does a stalker do?

Any number of things. The key is that the behaviors have a repetitive, purposeful, and threatening nature.

A stalking case may also involve **terroristic threatening**. A person is guilty of terroristic threatening when he or she threatens to commit any crime likely to result in death or serious physical injury to another person or result in substantial property damage to another person. [KRS 508.080 (1)]

You may also be a victim of **harassing communications**. A person is guilty of harassing communications when he or she intentionally contacts someone to harass, annoy, or alarm, anonymously or otherwise, by telephone, telegraph, e-mail or any other form of written communication to cause annoyance or alarm. [KRS 525.080 (1a)]

Kentucky state law provides penalties for each of these crimes. It is in your best interest to stop your stalker, with the help of the legal system, and make sure they are punished.

What can you do if you are being stalked?

Get help immediately, when you believe the first incident occurs.

Call 911 and file a police report. Get the officer's name and badge number. Find out how you can get in touch if other incidents occur. Call every time something happens. Write down when you made the complaint and the report number.

File an EPO or a criminal warrant. Ask the officer for information about how you can file one or both of these measures. Keep a copy of your EPO with you at all times. Relationship restrictions apply if you wish to file an EPO, but anyone can file a criminal warrant.

Keep a journal. Write down everything that occurs with dates, times, places and nature of events. Record any suspicious license plate numbers, with a description of the vehicle and person driving.

Alert people you know. This includes your employer, friends, and family. Tell them you may be in danger. Ask them to escort you. Inform the security guard at your workplace. Distribute a picture of your suspected stalker.

Get support. Contact the Center for Women and Families, a victim's advocacy program, or some type of counseling center for support (see information on the back of this brochure).